

There are not sufficient resident entomologists to cater for all these gaps because of the low population. Can I urge visiting entomologists to spread more widely and having done so to let the museums in the area have a list of their records for furthering local knowledge?

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Dystebenna stephensi (Staint) (Lep.: Cosmopterigidae) in N.W. Kent (v.c.16)

Michael Chalmers-Hunt told me that the late L.T. Ford used to find *stephensi* on a large old oak tree near Bexley Village in Kent, about 40 - 50 years ago. During the 1970s I lived at Bexley in a house previously owned by L.T. Ford's son Richard and I remembered that almost opposite the house stood, all alone, a very old oak tree, perhaps 500 or more years old.

I wondered if this was the tree on which Ford had found *stephensi* so on 22nd July 1990 I resolved to find out. Arriving at the tree I soon found *stephensi* in very fresh condition. In all I counted 19 specimens sitting in the chinks in the bark on the shady side of the tree, plus a good many more caught in spiders' webs.

It was a great satisfaction to find that this elusive species is still present as a strong colony on the tree which, I am now certain, Ford obtained it nearly half a century ago.— D. O'KEEFE, 50 Hazlemere Road, Petts Wood, Kent BR5 1PD.